(b) if so, the names of. these sectors together with the extent to which the limit of capital investment is proposed to be increased;

(c) whether Government are also considering to make changes in the list of the products reserved for production in above areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) All these issues are under consideration.

Number of workers in SSI

1392. SHRI S. RAMCHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the number of people working in Small Scale Industries and the actual minimum wages earned by them; sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): The estimated number of persons employed in small scale industries in 1999-2000 is 178.50 lakhs. The sector-wise information on number of people working and information relating to minimum wages are not maintained centrally.

Subsidy on Khadi products

1393. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to withdraw subsidy on Khadi products and also to stop giving working capital loans through financial institutions for Khadi Industries;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(c) whether some of the State Government have written to Government